

**Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Applicant: Kevin David Eld et al.

Serial No.: 09/845,813

Filed: April 30, 2001

Docket No.: 10013062-1

Title: DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD USING CONTENT GROUPING SYSTEM**REMARKS**

The following Remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 19, 2005, in which claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 16-20, and 23-31 were rejected. Claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 16-20, and 23-31 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Poole et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,006,242. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of distributing a plurality of documents including analyzing a content of each of the documents and assigning a content attribute value to the content attribute of each of the documents based on the content thereof, assigning at least one content group to each of the documents based on the content attribute and the content attribute value thereof, and distributing the documents based on the at least one content group of each of the documents.

Independent claim 14 recites a method of distributing a plurality of documents including analyzing a content of each of the documents and assigning a content attribute value to the content attribute of each of the documents based on the content thereof, assigning a content group to each of the documents based on the content attribute and the content attribute value thereof, defining a plurality of content categories, and distributing for at least one of the content categories each of the documents assigned the content group.

Independent claim 18 recites a document management system including a metadata architecture system adapted to analyze a content of each of the documents, apply at least one content attribute to each of the documents based on the content thereof, and assign a content attribute value to the content attribute of each of the documents based on the content thereof, a logic rules application system adapted to assign at least one content group to each of the documents based on the at least one content attribute and the content attribute value thereof, and a document distribution system adapted to distribute the documents based on the at least one content group of each of the documents.

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With respect to the Poole et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a method of distributing a plurality of documents as claimed in independent claim 1, a method of distributing a plurality of documents as claimed in independent claim 14, nor a document management system as claimed in independent claim 18. For example, the Poole et al. patent relates generally to document production, and more particularly, to an apparatus and method for dynamically constructing an electronic document for subsequent publication (col. 1, lines 16-20). As such, Figs. 3 and 4 of the Poole et al. patent illustrate in flow diagram form various steps involved in creating a document in accordance with the Poole et al. invention (col. 6, lines 15-17). More specifically, Fig. 4 of the Poole et al. patent illustrates a document construction routine (col. 6, line 49 - col. 7, line 27).

The apparatus and method of the Poole et al. patent, therefore, is directed to creating a document not distributing a document as claimed in independent claims 1, 14, and 18 of the present application. The distribution that the Examiner refers to in col. 51, lines 45-53 of the Poole et al. patent is not distribution of a document, but rather is distribution of the inferencing capabilities of the Inference Engine 300 of the Poole et al. patent wherein the Inference Engine 300 is "an architectural component of the dynamic document construction apparatus of the present invention that is intended to be independent of any specific application" (col. 42, lines 26-31).

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 14, and 18 are each patentably distinct from the Poole et al. patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2 and 5-13 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 16-17 further define patentably distinct claim 14, and dependent claims 19-20 and 23-31 further define patentably distinct claim 18, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 be allowed.

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**Title: DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD USING CONTENT GROUPING SYSTEM****CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Response should be directed to either John C. Moran at Telephone No. (970) 898-7010, Facsimile No. (970) 898-7247 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

**Hewlett-Packard Company**  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin David Eld et al.,

By their attorneys,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC  
Fifth Street Towers, Suite 2250  
100 South Fifth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Telephone: (612) 573-2006  
Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Date: July 14, 2005  
SAL:jan

  
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Scott A. Lund  
Reg. No. 41,166

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2005.

By   
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Name: Scott A. Lund